



W<sup>E</sup> M<sup>A</sup>RI<sup>E</sup> S<sup>E</sup> By the grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all and singuler Archbishops, Bishops, Archdeacons, Deanes, and their Officials, Vicars, Curats, and to all spiritual persons. And also to all Justices of Peace, Sheriffs, Bishiffes, Constables, Churchwardens and Headboroughes: And to all Officers of Cities, Burroughes, and Townes corporate: And to all other our Officers, Ministers, and Subjectes whatsoeuer they be, aswell within Liberties, as without, to have their presents that come, greeting:

W<sup>E</sup> C<sup>O</sup> M<sup>E</sup> As we are credibly given to understand, aswell by the humble supplication and petition of our poore distressed Subject Robert Lawe, Clerke of the Hether Church of Saint Maries, in our Burrough of Huntington, and County of Huntington, together with a Certificate from one true and loyall Subject the Bishiffes and Buryesses thereof, and Thomas Beard Doctor of Divinity, and one of our Chaplins, As also by another Certificate vnder the handes of our right trusty and welbeloued Oliver Lord Saint John, Thomas Maples Esquire, our iagh Sheriffes, our Countis of Huntington and Cambrige, Sir Oliver Cromwell, Sir Robert Paine Knights, Edward Geem Doctor of Divinity, Robert Awdley, and Thomas Herly Esquires, Justices of the Peace within our foyleid County of Huntington, That our said poore Subject Robert Lawe, haing all his life time bene a painefull and industrieous person in his calling, and a man of honest life and conversation, is now fallen into great want and povertry, by reason of a lamentable and searefull fire happeyning on the First day of July last past about midnight, which consumed and burnt downe to the ground not onely his dwelling House lately built, together with all his Household stufesse therin being fully furnished, and all his Books and Writings of god moment, with great store of Lymber ready squared, which he had prouided for the building of other Houses, Amounting in all the whole losse to the value of Two hundred pounds and bypwards: but also the whole Towne and people in their Leds was in great danger to haue bene consumed, had not the Country Shepheards discouered the same and raised the Towne, to the vster badoing of our said poore Subject, who before this vniuermall accident haied well, but hath now lost in a moment that little estate which with great care and trauell all his life time he haue sauied together to relieue himselfe, his poore wife and Children in his latter daies, who being now nere vpon Thre score yeares and sixtys, is not able to take that paines in his vocation for his living as heretofore. And therefore he hath most humbly besought vs to committute his poore estate, and to command his wants vnto the charitable consideration of all our leuing & weldisposed Subjectes within certaine Countis hereafter mentioned, not doubting but that all god Christians well weighing with themselves the vncertainty of mans estate in this world through these inevitable accidents, will be ready and willing as feling members one of anothers misery, to extend their charitable contributions towards the relief and conseruacion of their poore afflicted brother in this his great necessity, none knowinge howe soone or whose chance may next happen into the like calamity.

W<sup>E</sup> D<sup>O</sup> W<sup>E</sup> therefore, That of Our especiall Grace and Princeely Compassion, We haue given and granted, and by these our Letters Patents, doe give and graunt unto our said poore Subject Robert Lawe, and to his Deputy and Deputies, the bearer or bearers hereof, full power, licence, and authority to aske, gather, receive, and take the Almes and charitable beneuolence of all our leuing Subjects whatsoeuer inhabiting within our Countis of Middlesex, Essex, Bedford, Buckingham, Northampton, Leicester, Cambridge, Huntington, Suffolke, Norfolke, Lincolne, Yorke, Nottingham, and Darby, with our Cities of Peterborough, Norwich, Lincolne, and Yorke within our County of Cambridge, and Isle of Ely, without Towne and County of Kingst<sup>n</sup> vpon Hull, and our Towne of Fothergham. And in all Townes Corporate, pruiledged places, Parishes, Villages, and in all other places whatsoeuer within our said Countis and nother where, for and towards the new building of his said House, the recuery of his losse, and the relieve and comfort of our said poore Subject, his wife, and fine Children.

W<sup>E</sup> C<sup>O</sup> M<sup>E</sup> we will and comand you and every of you, that at such time and times, as the said Robert Lawe, or his Deputy or Deputies, the bearer or bearers hereof, shall come and repaire to any your Churches, Chappells, or other places, to aske and receive the gratuities and charitable beneuolence of our said Subjects, quietly to permitt and suffer them so to doe, without any manner of your lets or contradictions, And you the said Parsons, Clerkes, and Curats, for the better stirring vp of a charitable devotion, deliberately to publish and declare the Lenes of these our Letters Patents, vnto our said Subjects vpon some Sabaoth day, whenas the same shall be tendered unto you. Chouzing and persuading them to extend their liberal contributions in so god and charitable a deede. And you the Churchwardens of every Parish, where such Collection is to be made (as aforesaid) to collect and gather the Almes and charitable beneuolence of all our leuing Subjects, aswell Strangers as others, and what shall be by you so gathered to deliuer it to the bearer or bearers of these our Letters Patents and to no other person, when as therunto you shalbe required. And lastly, where as we are informed of the great abuse which is now crept in amongst these poore people, who sell their Licences unto some other person, whereby mens charity goeth not the right way, but unto such as deserve it least: That from henceforth our will and pleasure is, that if it may appeare unto you or any of you, that the said Robert Lawe, hath contracted any bargains, or made or shall make sale of these our Letters Patents, whereby the benefit should passe from him to any other person, That thereupon these our Letters Patents shall be vnde and of none effect. Any Statute, Law, Ordinance, or Provision, heretofore made to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding.

I<sup>O</sup> witness hereof, We haue caused these our Letters to be made Patents for the space of One whole yeare next after the date hereof to endure. Witness our selfe at Westminster, the Nine-tenth day of January, in the Eighteenth yeare of our Raigne of England, France, and Ireland: And of Scotland the Fourte and fiftieth.

Steward,

God save the King. Printed by Roger Wood, and Thomas Symonds. Cum Privilegio.